

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 06590 050920Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-13 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /066 W

-----105356 050922Z /10

O R 050854Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5566

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6590

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM PINT JS

SUBJ: PRESS ALLEGATIONS OF INTENSE ROKG PRESSURE ON IMPRISONED  
DISSIDENTS

REF: SEOUL 6539

1. EMBOFF CHECKED AGAIN WITH KNCC ON ALLEGATIONS NEW YORK  
TIMES ARTICLE AUGUST 3 THAT ROKG APPLYING INTENSE PSYCHO-  
LOGICAL AND PHYSICAL PRESSURE TO IMPRISONED DISSIDENTS TO  
GET THEM TO SIGN STATEMENTS OF REPENTANCE. KNCC HAD NO  
INFORMATION TO INDICATE THAT PRESSURE HAD REACHED POINT  
WHICH COULD BE CONSIDERED INHUMANE. REV. KIM SAID KNCC  
HAD RECEIVED REPORT FROM KWANGJU THAT ONE PRISONER WAS  
PLACED IN A DARKENED CELL FOR A SHORT TIME UPON REFUSING  
TO SIGN. REV. KIM DID NOT BELIEVE THIS REPRESENTATED ROKG  
POLICY OR THAT INCIDENT ITSELF WAS OF GRAVE SIGNIFICANCE.

2. COMMENT: IT WOULD SEEM SELF-DEFEATING POLICY TO  
FORCE PRISONERS OUT OF JAIL BY PHYSICAL OR PSYCHOLOGICAL  
ABUSE. PRISONERS RELEASED UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES COULD  
HARDLY BE EXPECTED TO ADD LUSTER TO ROKG IMAGE, WHICH  
CLEARLY IS OBJECTIVE OF RELEASE PROGRAM.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, DISSIDENT FACTIONS, POLITICAL PRISONERS, PRISONERS WELFARE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 05-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977SEOUL06590  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770281-0063  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** SEOUL  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770892/aaaacyd.tel  
**Line Count:** 55  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** e6ec6f61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 SEOUL 6539  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 25-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1696792  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESS ALLEGATIONS OF INTENSE ROKG PRESSURE ON IMPRISONED DISSIDENTS  
**TAGS:** SHUM, PINT, KS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/e6ec6f61-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009